

Applic. No. 09/878,665  
Amdt. dated October 1, 2003  
Reply to Office action of May 21, 2003

Claim Amendments

E2 Claim 1 (cancelled)

Claim <sup>2</sup>~~2~~ (previously-presented): The dish rack according to claim ~~2~~, wherein at least some of said legs are pivotable into a horizontal position, a vertical position, and oblique positions different from said horizontal position and said vertical position.

Claim <sup>3</sup>~~3~~ (previously-presented): The dish rack according to claim <sup>2</sup>~~2~~, wherein at least some of said legs form a set-down surface for hollow dishes when at least some of said legs are pivoted into at least one of said oblique positions.

Claim <sup>4</sup>~~4~~ (previously-presented): The dish rack according to claim <sup>2</sup>~~2~~, wherein at least some of said legs form a set-down surface when at least some of said legs are pivoted into an oblique position half-way between said horizontal position and said vertical position.

Claim <sup>5</sup>~~5~~ (previously-presented): The dish rack according to claim <sup>2</sup>~~2~~, wherein at least some of said legs form stops for retaining hollow dishes in said horizontal position.

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Claim ~~6~~<sup>4</sup> (previously-presented): The dish rack according to claim ~~2~~<sup>2</sup>, wherein at least some of said legs form stops for retaining hollow dishes in at least one of said oblique positions.

Claim ~~7~~<sup>9</sup> (previously-presented): The dish rack according to claim ~~22~~<sup>1</sup>, further comprising:

further prongs having one leg;

said further prongs and said prongs being alternating disposed on said base wire; and

said two legs of said prongs forming a stop for retaining hollow dishes.

Claim ~~8~~<sup>8</sup> (previously-presented): The dish rack according to claim ~~25~~<sup>7</sup>; further comprising:

further prongs having one leg;

said further prongs and said prongs being alternating disposed on said base wire; and

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said two legs of said prongs forming a stop for retaining hollow dishes.

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Claim <sup>10</sup> (currently-amended). The dish rack according to claim ~~22~~, wherein said prongs having ~~at least~~ two legs are L-shaped.

Claims 10-15 (cancelled)

Claim <sup>12</sup> ~~16~~ (currently-amended). The dish rack according to claim ~~24~~, wherein said prongs having ~~at least~~ two legs are L-shaped.

Claim <sup>13</sup> ~~17~~ (previously-presented): The dish rack according to claim ~~16~~ <sup>12</sup>, wherein said retainer is pivotable into a horizontal position, a vertical position, and oblique positions different from said horizontal position and said vertical position.

Claim <sup>14</sup> ~~18~~ (previously-presented): The dish rack according to claim ~~17~~ <sup>13</sup>, wherein a least one of said legs forms a set-down surface for hollow dishes when said retainer is pivoted into at least one of said oblique positions.

Claim <sup>15</sup> ~~19~~ (previously-presented): The dish rack according to claim ~~17~~ <sup>13</sup>, wherein at least one of said legs forms a stop for

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retaining hollow dishes in at least one of said horizontal position and said oblique positions.

Claim ~~20~~<sup>16</sup> (previously-presented): The dish rack according to claim ~~24~~<sup>11</sup>, further comprising:

further prongs having one leg;

said further prongs and said prongs being alternating disposed on said base wire; and

said two legs of said prongs forming a stop for retaining hollow dishes.

[Claim 21 (cancelled)

Claim ~~22~~<sup>1</sup> (previously-presented): A dish rack for accommodating dishes, comprising:

a plurality of base wires forming a dish rack base; and

a plurality of prongs each having two legs with two free ends and an intersection connecting said legs to one another, each of said prongs being connected to a respective one of said base wires in a vicinity of said intersection, and distal from

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said free ends, and at least some of said prongs being  
pivotable between different pivot positions about a respective  
longitudinal axis of one of said base wires.

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Claim ~~23~~ (previously-presented): In a household dishwasher, a  
dish rack for accommodating dishes, the dish rack comprising:

a plurality of base wires forming a dish rack base; and

a plurality of prongs each having two legs with two free ends  
and an intersection connecting said legs to one another, each  
of said prongs being connected to a respective one of said  
base wires in a vicinity of said intersection, and distal from  
said free ends, and at least some of said prongs being  
pivotable between different pivot positions about a respective  
longitudinal axis of one of said base wires.

*11*  
Claim ~~24~~ (previously-presented): A dish rack for  
accommodating dishes, comprising:

at least one base wire and a plurality of prongs forming a  
retainer;

said plurality of prongs each having two legs and an  
intersection connecting said legs to one another, each of said

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prongs being connected to said base wire in a vicinity of said intersection and distal from said free ends, for securing dishware, and at least some of said prongs being pivotable between different pivot positions about a longitudinal axis of said base wire.

Claim ~~25~~<sup>7</sup> (currently-amended). The dish rack according to claim ~~22~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein some of said prongs are pivotable into three functional dish rack positions, including:

a first functional dish rack position in which a first one of said legs is substantially perpendicular to a plane defined by said dish rack base and a second one of said legs is substantially parallel to said ~~dish rack base~~ plane;

a second functional dish rack position in which said first and second legs enclose acute angles with said ~~dish rack base~~ plane; and

a third functional dish rack position in which said first leg is substantially parallel to said ~~dish rack base~~ plane and said second leg is substantially perpendicular to said ~~dish rack base~~ plane.